

From: Jerry Tibor
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Comments about the Microsoft Antitrust Settlement

"...the settlement, if approved by the court, would "eliminate Microsoft's illegal practices, prevent recurrence of the same or similar practices and restore the competitive threat" the company faces from rivals."

The above is a quote from an Associated Press article about the Department of Justice's statements on the proposed Microsoft settlement. I can only believe that the Department of Justice may know a great deal about the law but they know very little about the computer industry and even less about Microsoft and their historical behavior in the industry.

The proposed settlement would do absolutely nothing to prevent the kind of abuses that Microsoft has employed time and again to first gain and then perpetuate their monopoly on desktop operating systems. I find it tragic that Judge Jackson chose to complicate this case by his actions, yet his assessment of Microsoft in the interviews he granted was absolutely accurate. In my experience, Microsoft is singular in its approach to business and demonstrates a complete lack of morals or ethics.

A conduct remedy will do absolutely nothing to change their approach to the marketplace. They have always been and will continue to be uncooperative in changing any of their business practices. They will choose to misinterpret every aspect of the settlement to their advantage, and the settlement doesn't really require them to give in that much in the first place.

This settlement is not in the public interest and if approved, time will show that it is simply inadequate to change the monopolistic behavior of Microsoft.

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